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EXCALIBUR

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A
DEADLY Foe
STRIKES...

...AND A
BETRAYAL
FROM WITHIN!

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United to preserve the dream of Professor Charles Xavier, they have sought to extend the message of the X-Men beyond the shores of America. Operating out of their headquarters on Muir Island in Scotland, they've sworn to defend mutantkind from a world that both hates and fears them, for they are... EXCALIBUR!

**NIGHTCRAWLER**

Born with the mutant ability to teleport short distances, stick to walls and ceilings, and turn virtually invisible when in deep shadows, the German-born Kurt Wagner is the blue-skinned leader of Excalibur.

**SHADOWCAT**

American-born Kitty Pryde has the mutant ability to turn her body intangible and walk on air with but a thought. Trained in the ways of the Samurai and the ninja, Shadowcat's physical prowess is balanced by her brilliant mind and her formal X-Men training.

**COLOSSUS**

The Russian mutant born Piotr Rasputin is the powerhouse of Excalibur. His artistic heart is masked by his cold, hard exterior, as Colossus has the ability to transform his flesh and blood into a form of impervious organic steel!

**WOLFSBANE**

Rahne Sinclair is the youngest member of Excalibur, but her mutant ability to transform from a shy young woman to a human/wolf hybrid and to a complete wolf makes her a force to be reckoned with!

**MEGGAN**

Linked to the elemental forces of Great Britain as a faerie, the enigmatic but naive Meggan has the ability to change her physical form at will, as well as the power to shape the very forces of nature to fit her needs.

**PETE WISDOM**

A former intelligence operative with the mutant ability to generate "hot knives". Boyfriend to Kitty Pryde, he remains a reluctant member of Excalibur.



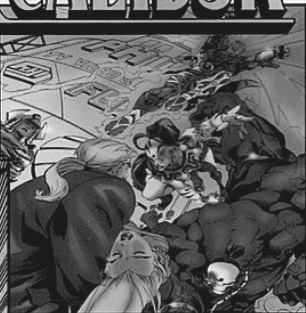
PREVIOUSLY
IN...

EXCALIBUR

They came from the Crimson Dawn—a mysterious other-worldly dimension—seeking to dominate our planet. Kidnapping Captain Britain, the three Dragons of the Crimson Dawn attempted to open a portal from their world to ours.



The Dragons were defeated, but not without a price. His powers lost, perhaps forevermore, Captain Britain decided to leave the team in search of a new direction for his life.



Unfortunately, Excalibur was stranded in China without the means to return home. With nowhere else to turn, Excalibur has made their way to Hong Kong to meet up with their friend Rory Campbell in the hope that he will be able to help them out ...

STAN
LEE
Presents:

BROKEN VOWS

The AFTERMATH of the
**BATTLE FOR
BRITAIN**

HONG KONG

"I
MEGGAN...
DO SOLEMNLY
SWEAR..."

"...TO
TAKE YOU --
BRIAN BRADDOCK --
TO BE MY
LAWFULLY WEDDED
HUSBAND..."

BEN RAAB
Story
ROB STOTZ
Breakdowns

SCOTT KOBLISH
Inks

RICHARD STARKING & COMICRAFT/KS
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COME INSIDE,
LITTLE ONE, TELL
ME WHAT'S
WRONG --

I MISS
HIM, PIOTR.
I MISS HIM
SO MUCH, IT
HURTS.

I
HAVEN'T
SLEPT A WINK
SINCE BRIAN
LEFT. AND
WHEN I
DO --

-- I'M
AWAKENED BY
THE NIGHTMARE
THAT HE'S GONE
FOREVER!

HOW
I MISS HIM
SO...



POOR THING. SHE'S
BEEN SO LONELY --
SO ISOLATED -- SINCE
CAPTAIN BRITAIN'S
DEPARTURE LAST
WEEK.

WE ALL
MISS HIM,
MIS.

BUT
HE LOVES
YOU -- AND HE
WILL RETURN...
SOMEDAY.

© HAVING LOST HIS
POWERS IN EXCHANGE
FOR BRIAN IS NOW ON
SABBATICAL DUTY



AND
THAT'S WHY
NOTHING CAN
EVER TRULY KEEP
YOU TWO
APART.

--SNIFF!--
I GUESS YOU'RE
RIGHT, WE'VE BEEN
THROUGH SO MUCH
TOGETHER.

HE...
COMPLETES...
ME, AND I,
HIM.

I
SUPPOSE.



AND AS LONG AS I
HAVE A FRIEND LIKE YOU,
PIOTR NIKOLIEVITCH
RASPUTIN --



-- I'LL
NEVER BE
ALONE.

INSIDE... THE REST
OF EXCALIBUR
AWAITS THE ARRIVAL
OF AN OLD FRIEND.

SOME LESS
PATIENTLY
THAN OTHERS.

HE'LL
BE HERE IN
A SEC, KURT.
CAN YE NAE
RELAX?

NEIN,
RAHNE. I
DO NOT LIKE
BEING IN THIS
VIPER'S DEN
ONE BIT.

SHAW
INDUSTRIES IS A
WORLD-RENOVED
MEGACORP. WOTS
THE BIG DEAL?

THE
"BIG DEAL",
YA SILLY
SOD --

-- IS THAT THIS
BUILDING... THIS
ENTIRE COMPANY...
BELONGS TO ONE
OF THE X-MEN'S
DEADLIEST
ENEMIES!

--SNIFF!
SNIFF!--

DO
NAE WORRY,
KITTY.

MUH
WOLF SENSES
DETECT NAE TRACE
O' SEBASTIAN SHAW,
NOR ANY O' THOSE
OTHER SPALLENS
FROM THE HELL-
FIRE CLUB.

BUUUT...
I DO SMELL
ONE FAMILIAR
SCENT...

... DR. RORY
CAMPBELL!

'ALLO
THERE,
WATTS.
BEEN A
SPELL, AIN'T
IT?



OCH,
RORY -- 'TIS
SO GOOD TAE
SEE YE AGAIN,
LAD!

TOTALLY!
AND HEY, CHECK
IT OUT --!

YOU'RE
WALKING ON
TWO LEGS
AGAIN!®

EASY,
LASSIES!
I MAY
BE BIPEDAL
AGAIN --



-- BUT THIS
PROSTHETIC AND
I AM STILL GETTING
ACQUAINTED
WITH ONE
ANOTHER!



NICE
PIECE O'
HARDWARE YA
GOT THERE,
CAMPBELL. AN'FUL
GENEROUS...
OF SHAW.



YES, WELL...
BELIEVE IT OR
NOT, SHAW IS AN
HONORABLE
MAN.

IT'S
A SHAME
HE'S NOT HERE
TO PROVE
IT.



JUST
THE SAME,
RORY -- I BREATHE
MUCH EASIER
KNOWING HE'S
NOT.

BESIDES...

... I DOUBT
HE'D APPROVE OF
YOU USING YOUR SHAW
INDUSTRIES PRIVILEGES
TO SHUTTLE US BACK
HOME TO MUIR ISLAND...





... SURREPTITIOUSLY
PAST UNSUSPECTING
GUARD AFTER GUARD,
DOWN LEVEL AFTER
LEVEL...

... TO THE NUCLEUS
OF SHAW INDUSTRIES'
M.I.S. DEPARTMENT.

NOW LET'S SEE
WHAT DR. CAMPBELL
HAS BEEN UP TO
SINCE LAST WE
PARTED

WENT TO
JAPAN... GOT
FITTED FOR THE
PROSTHETIC...

... PARTED
COMPANY WITH
ALISTAIR STUART,
WHO THEN
RETURNED TO
ENGLAND.

MOST
LIKELY TO
REORGANIZE
THAT MESS
WE CALL
W.H.O.'s

CAME TO
HONG KONG
TO THANK SHAW,
ETC. ETC. WELL,
NOTHING SEEMS
OUT OF THE
ORDINARY.

TEK TEK TEK

● ENGLAND'S ULTIMO
SAFETY/SECURITY
ORGANIZATION



HMNN...

... HOPE NO
ONE'LL NOTICE
IF I CHECK INTO
SOMETHING
A BIT MORE
PERSONAL...

TEK
TEK
TEK

... BYPASSING
EXTERNAL SECURITY
CODES... LINKING TO
MUIR ISLAND'S SERVER.
C'MON... C'MON... C'MON...
STUPID FREAKIN' MODEM!



YOU'VE GOT
VID-MAIL!

A-HA!
I'M IN!



BEEN
IN BLEEDIN'
HONG KONG A
WEEK NOW, AND STILL
NO LEAD'S ABOUT
THAT CHEEKY
BIRD FROM
"PECKHAM".



1 FEW HOURS LATER,
IN HONG KONG'S
SPRINGING
WESTERN DISTRICT...

... AFTER OUR HEROES
HAVE NEARLY
EXHAUSTED RORY'S
EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

SOME CHOOSING TO INDULGE
THEMSELVES AND SIMPLY "LET
IT ALL HANG OUT" IN A WAY
THEIR DANGER-FRAUGHT LIVES
RARELY ALLOW.

LOOKIN' MIGHTY
FINE THERE,
PRYDE.

WHY,
THANK YOU,
MR. WISDOM.
YOU LOOK AS
RUMPLED AS
EVER!

<THIS
WAY, PLEASE --
DR. CAMPBELL
AWAITS YOU AT
HIS USUAL
TABLE.>

© TRANSLATED FROM
THE CHINESE
PANCHONG HATT

OTHERS ADOPTING
A MORE
"CONSERVATIVE"
APPROACH...

USING THE OLD IMAGE
INDUCER TO DISGUISE
YOURSELF AS YOUR
BOYHOOD HERO,
"ERROL FLYNN" --
EH, TOVARISCH?

JA,
PIOTR.

AN UTTERLY HANDSOME
AND DASHING BLUE-FURRED,
SILVER-TONGUED DEVIL
THOUGH I MAY
BE --

I'D RATHER NOT
DRAW ANY UNDUE
ATTENTION TO
US.

A WISE
STRATEGY,
MISFIT...

... BUT A
MARGINALLY
SUCCESSFUL
ONE AT BEST!

SEVERAL COURSES --
AND SERVINGS OF
RICE WINE -- LATER...

CAPTAIN
BRITAIN'S LOST
HIS POWERS?
CRIKEY!

SUCH
A HALE AND
HEARTY CHOP
TO BE CUT DOWN
SO SOON IN HIS
SUPER-HEROIC
PRIME.

HE'LL
BE BACK,
RORY. MY BRIAN
CAN SURVIVE
ANYTHING!

HIDING
YOUR SHAME
WITH SMALL
TALK -- EH,
OLD BOY.

THINK
YOUR OLD
MATES WOULD
STILL BE AS
GENIAL --

-- IF THEY KNEW YOU'D
TRADED VITAL DATA ABOUT
THE LEGACY VIRUS TO ONE
OF THEIR GREATEST
ENEMIES...

... ALL FOR THE
PRICE OF BEING
ABLE TO WALK
ON TWO LEGS
AGAIN... P

HEY,
SPEAKING OF
ABSENT
FRIENDS --

-- WHERE'S
THE LOVELY
AMANDA
SEFTON... P

© HE ALSO DID IT TO SPEED
UP THE HUNT FOR A CURE
TO THAT MUTANT-SPECIFIC
DISEASE IN W-HEN 6.3

UH
OH

UHHH, IS THERE SOMETHING
I SHOULD KNOW, MEINE
FREUNDEN?

OH,
TOVARISCH, IT
WAS ALL SO VERY
SUDDEN...

AMANDA FELT SHE HADN'T "BEEN HERSELF LATELY" AS A MEMBER OF EXCALIBUR, AND THAT SHE SIMPLY NEEDED TO LEAVE.

YET, SHE COULDN'T EVEN BE BOTHERED TO SAY "GOOD-BYE" TO ME -- HER BOYFRIEND!



MORE THAN THAT -- SHE DID NOT SAY, MY FRIEND.

AND WITH ALL THAT HAPPENED AFTERWARDS, I'M AFRAID I FORGOT TO TELL YOU.

I'M TRULY SORRY.



AH, YOU KNOW BIRDS, WAGNER --

Ohhh, BOY, HERE HE GOES...

-- THEY SAY THEY WANT A STABLE AN' STEADY RELATIONSHIP T' KEEP YOU AT THE NEST --



-- BUT THEY'RE JUST WAITIN' F'R YA T' TURN YER BACK AN' FLY THE COOP THEMSELVES!

PETER WISDOM! THAT IS ONE OF THE MOST JUVENILE...

... INSECURE...

... AND TOTALLY IDIOTIC STATEMENTS I HAVE EVER HEARD SPRING FROM ANY INEBRIATED MAN'S MOUTH IN MY ENTIRE...



GREETINGS, MUSUME, I HAVE RETURNED FOR YOU --

-- "DAUGHTER!"



... LIFE.





OH,
COME OFF
IT, PRYDE -- Y'
KNOW I WAS
JUST TRYIN' T'
CHEER THE
GUY UP!

HEY,
YA GONNA
FINISH THAT
EGG
ROLL?



Liddy,
KITTY?

YA
OKAY
THERE,
LUV?



CALL
ME CRAZY,
FOLKS --





-- BUT I
THINK WE'VE GOT
A PROBLEM HERE.

CORRECTION,
MORTAL --



SCHARRRRP

OOHHH!



-- YOU
HAVE LOTS OF
PROBLEMS!

GOTT
IM HIMMEL,
KATZCHEN --

-- WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?!

WZZ

WZZ

MAKING
A -- BIG
MISTAKE.
THAT'S
WHAT.

THINK
YA'VE GOT
SOME "HOT"
KNIVES,
M'LUV?

NAH,
THOSE
AIN'T "HOT"
KNIVES --





-- THESE
ARE HOT
KNIVES!

IT'S PETE WISDOM'S
PYROKINETIC
POWER, DEFLECTS
THE RAZOR-SHARP
PROJECTILES --

PROTECTING HIM
FROM HARM, SO
THE SHADOWCAT'S
BORN TALENT

-- TO BECOME
INTANGIBLE,
PROTECT HER
FROM THEIR
RICOCHET!

BOHZE
MOI!

HAS
KATYA LOST
HER MIND? WHAT
WOULD POSSESS
HER TO ATTACK
WISDOM SO?

WE MOST
SUBDUDE HER
WITHOUT
ANYONE
GETTING
HURT --

DUCK
AND COVER,
EVERYBODY!

-- A TASK THAT I,
IN MY ARMORED
FORM, STAND
THE SAFEST
CHANCE OF
ACCOMPLISHING!

AWH, THE
INVULNERABLE
METAL MAN
-- ONCE
LOVED --

I DON'T
WISH TO HARM
YOU, KATYA --
BUT YOU
ENDANGER NOT
ONLY THE LIVES
OF YOUR
FRIENDS --

-- BUT THOSE OF
MANY INNOCENT
BYSANDERS!
THIS MADNESS
MUST CEASE!

OWWWW!
PETER,
YOU'RE
HURTING ME!!

HER
VOICE --
IT'S NORMAL
AGAIN! SHE
MUST TRULY
BE IN
PAIN!

KATYA,
I'M SO
SORRY!
I --

ARCH!
KLANG
KLANG

FOOL!

DESPITE
YOUR STEELY
HIDE, YOU
TOO CAN BE
FELLED --

-- BY ONE
SKILLED IN THE
ARTS OF THE
NINJA --



-- AND
WIELDING THE
POWERS OF A
GHOST!

TO THE
BASEMENT,
PEOPLE --
SCHNELL!

A PUFF OF SMOKE,
THE STENCH OF
BRIMSTONE...

...AND EXCALBUR'S
SWARMBUCKLING
TEAM LEADER --
NIGHTCRAWLER --

-- IS SUDDENLY
ELSEWHERE!

Ahh, IT
IS GOOD TO
BE "MYSELF"
AGAIN -- WITHOUT
THAT VERDAMMT
HOLOGRAPHIC
CONTRAPTION!

NOW,
TO FIND
KITTY...

WHAT IN THE
WORLD COULD
HAVE TRIGGERED
SUCH PSYCHOTIC
BEHAVIOR?

COULD HER
FOOD HAVE BEEN
DRUGGED?

PERHAPS
MY PREVIOUS
FEARS ABOUT
SEBASTIAN
SHAW WERE
JUSTIFIED...?

NEIN. IF
THAT WERE THE
CASE, WE'D ALL
HAVE BEEN
TARGETS -- NOT
JUST KITTY.

Hmmm... SHE
AND WOLVERINE
SHARED AN
ADVENTURE IN THE
ORIENT DURING
OUR DAYS AS
X-MEN.®

® REMEMBER THE CLASSIC
KITTY PRINCE & WOLVERINE
LIMITED SERIES?

AND
WHILE NEITHER
OF THEM EVER DID
TELL US EXACTLY
WHAT HAPPENED
THEN --

-- I CAN'T
SHAKE THE FEELING
THIS IS SOMEHOW
CONNECTED...



THOUGH I'D BE ABLE TO
TRACK KITTY'S SCENT
BETTER AS A FULL
WOLF --

-- I'M MUCH
STRONGER AND
SWIFTER IN MUH
TRANSITIONAL
FORM!

AN' JUDGIN'
BY KITTY'S LESS-
THAN-PREDICTABLE
DEMEANOR --



-- I'VE
GOT TAE STAY
ON MUH
TOES!



NICE TRY,
CHANGELING...

KITTY --?
OWW!



WOLF

THAT
SCREAM...!
WOLFEBANE!

BAM!



ARE
YOU OKAY,
GIRL?

GOT
CAUGHT OFF-
GUARD IS ALL.
KURT, BUT I DO
NRE UNDER-
STAND.

KITTY
ATTACKED ME --
THEN SHE JUST
RAN AWAY!

THEN
PERHAPS
SHE IS FIGHTING
THE FORCES
INFLUENCING
HER.
IF ONLY WE
COULD FLUSH
HER OUT OF THE
DARKNESS...



A LITTLE
LIGHT CAN DO
THAT, NIGHT-
CRAWLER...



... SO, PLEASE --
ALLOW ME!

FOCUSING HER ELEMENTAL
TALENTS, MEGGARY'S VERY
BODY GLOWS WITH EERIE
INCANDESCENCE...

... CHASING AWAY
THE SHADOWS
TO REVEAL...



YOU ARE
TOO LATE,
MORTALS!
THE
SHADOWCAT
IS MINE!





THERE'S
LIKELY TO BE
SOME FOLKS
BEGGIN' TOFFER
ON THAT POINT,
MATE.
STARTING
WITH ME!

AA, BUT YOU
MISUNDERSTAND,
MORTAL.



ONCE, I--
OGUN --
-- HAVE
DESTROYED THOSE
NEAREST AND DEAREST
TO HER... ESPECIALLY
THAT MEDDLING
LOGAN... ®

... HER
SOUL -- HER
VERY ESSENCE --
SHALL BECOME
MY WILLING
THRALL!
SO, YOU
SEE... ALIVE OR
DEAD -- IT'S ALL
THE SAME TO
ME!

© SCOTT'S OTHER FORMER
PUPIL, VOLUNTEER!



YAH! A PINT AND
A POUND SAYS
YER BLUFFIN'.
I BET YER
SPIRIT NEEDS
A HOME --
-- AND
HER BODY'S
IT!



IT
DIES -- P
-- YOU
DIE!

YOU'RE MAD!
SURELY YOU'D
NOT SLAY YOUR
BELOVED...



TO SAVE
HER FROM
THE LIKES O'
YOU... P
TRY
ME...

YOU HAVE
MADE A GRAVE
MISTAKE THIS
DAY, MORTAL.

THERE
SHALL COME A
RECKONING --
-- AND I
SHALL RETURN
TO PLAGUE YOU
AND YOURS
FOREVER!

WHATEVER
AND WHENEVER,
YA BLOODY
GIT --

-- I'LL BE
WAITIN'!

UHHH...

ALICE

WH-WHA'
HAPPEN...?

NOT
REALLY SURE,
BABE...

... BUT YA SURE AS GOD
AIN'T GETTIN' STEAK
KNIVES F'R YER NEXT
BIRTHDAY!



THE NEXT MORNING...

IT WAS
RIGHT NICE
SEEING YOU
CHAPS
AGAIN.

NOW,
TELL ME --
WHY THE
SEPARATE
JETS?

BESIDES FOR
SOME WELL-EARNED
R&R --

-- I AM
GOING HOME TO
GERMANY TO SEE IF
MOTHER KNOWS
ANYTHING ABOUT
AMANDA...

AN' WHILE
I'M COMIN'
WITH HIM TO DO SOME...
CLUBBIN' --

-- RAHNE
AND I ARE
HEADED BACK
TO MUIR ISLAND
TO GET SOME
BEAUTY
SLEEP!

WHAT'D
I TELL YA,
WAGNER --?

-- NOT A
SINGLE REASON
I WORRY ABOUT
SEBASTIAN SHAW
THIS WHOLE
TRIP!

AND WHAT OF YOU TWO...? P ALSO
HEADING BACK TO DREARY OL' MUIR
ISLAND TO CHECK UP ON DR.
MACTAGGERT?

NYET --
RAHNE IS
ATTENDING TO
THAT. SHE'S VERY
CONCERNED
ABOUT HER
"MUM".

MEGGAN
AND I PLAN
TO SEE THE
SIGHTS OF
PARIS...

ESPECIALLY
THE DUDLEY
WORLD
AMUSEMENT
PARK!

"WELL, YOU'LL
BE THERE
IN NO TIME!

ZOOOON!

"NOT ONLY ARE SHAW
INDUSTRIES' JETS THE
SAFEST, MOST
RELIABLE AIRCRAFT
IN THE WORLD --"



"... BUT SO ARE
OUR PILOTS!"

THAT'S
ODD... THE PLANE
JUST CHANGED
DIRECTION RATHER
ABRUPTLY.



THOSE ARE
THE SWISS
ALPS.

COULD
SOMETHING BE
WRONG?
I'LL
CHECK.



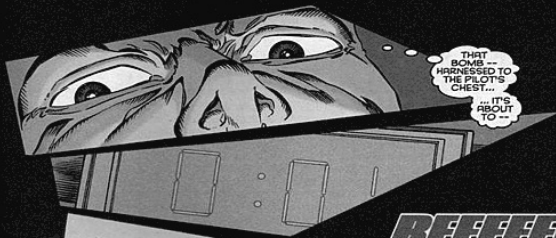
PARDON
ME, SIR --
-- BUT WHY THE
SUDDEN COURSE
CORRECTION?

WHY,
MUTANT...P



BECAUSE
MY 'EMPLOYER'
WANTS YOU
DEAD!

BY
THE WHITE
WOLF --!



THAT
BOMB --
HARNESSED TO
THE PILOT'S
CHEST...

... IT'S
ABOUT
TO --

BEEEEEP

BA BOOOOM

A large, dynamic explosion scene with thick, billowing smoke and debris. The explosion is the central focus of the panel, with jagged lines indicating the force of the impact. The sound effect 'BA BOOOOM' is written in large, bold, stylized letters across the top of the explosion.

NEXT ISSUE: COULD THIS BE THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF
EXCALIBUR? FIND OUT NEXT MONTH AS OUR HEROES FIGHT FOR

"SURVIVAL!"

SWORDSTROKES

YES!

Hey, folks! Hope you liked our little jaunt back to Nightcrawler's past last month!

Yeah, we know, it was really mean of us to make you wait a whole 'nother month to find out the winners of our mystery guest-star contest, but suspense only makes it more fun! Right? Well, anyway—like we promised—there are two winners; one for our e-mailed entries and one for snail mail. So, without further ado, our winners are...Lex Thompson of Sarasota, FL (for e-mail) and Louie LaPalombara III of Levittown, PA (for regular mail)! Great job, folks! We had tons of entries, and most of those entries were correct (we'll have to make it harder next time!). So, Lex and Louie, your prizes—an issue of EXCALIBUR signed by the entire creative team—are on their way! Keep a lookout!

Whew! Okay, now that we're through with that, let's get to some letters, okay?

Dear *Swordstrokes*,

First, I'd like to say welcome to the new creative team of EXCALIBUR! Salvador Larroca is doing a spectacular job drawing Britain's greatest heroes (it's been a LONG time since Meggan's looked so good!), and I'm looking forward to reading more of Ben Raab's stories about my favorite team.

I have some concerns, though, about some of what's been happening in what has long been one of my favorite comics. EXCALIBUR has always had its own place in the Marvel Universe. Although many of its members have been mutants, some of them

former X-Men, it has never been a "mutant" book, per se. In particular, until very recent issues, the words "hated and feared by those they are sworn to protect" have been conspicuously absent. EXCALIBUR was routinely called in by WHO or other government agencies to investigate unusual situations. The Black Air scenario was a perfect example of this, and in issue #100, despite the destruction of much of London, EXCALIBUR was hailed as the heroes of the day. What caused the sudden and abrupt change?

I realize that this is a lead into Operation: Zero Tolerance, but I can't help feeling a bit sorry for Britain's greatest heroes, as well as for myself. I don't necessarily argue against a change in focus; EXCALIBUR's experienced several, some better than others, and it's reasonable that these heroes in particular might want to reach out and help young mutants. In the past, however, EXCALIBUR has always maintained its own identity. Please don't forget that EXCALIBUR has a history of its own, and that Kurt and Kitty especially have been members of this group for at least as long as they were X-Men. And please, keep the angst in the X-MEN! Let the Brits come to appreciate their heroes once again!

Finally, what would a letter be without a few suggestions and requests? I feel almost obligated to include these:

1. How about a story (or two) focusing on Rahne and Douglock? The only recent story in which they appeared prominently was really focused on Kitty, who we've seen a lot of lately. Doug and Rahne always seem to interact well; how about a story focusing on them, much as the Dream Nails trilogy focused on Shadowcat and Wisdom. I'm not necessarily pushing for a relationship, you understand, just a more prominent place on the team.

2. I love the recent focus on Brian and Meggan. I'm a little confused, though — aren't they

already engaged? Or did they just decide that anything worth doing was worth redoing? Anyway, keep up the good work!

3. Please, please let Moira (or someone) discover that Douglock has the secret of the Legacy Virus soon! Preferably while Moira is still around to benefit from a cure. She's really become an integral member of the team, and not only because her lab is their headquarters. I loved her handling of the MLF situation, and her interactions with Wisdom are priceless.

4. Finally, please resolve the situation of the lost EXCALIBUR characters. Kylon's search for his parents is reminiscent of Karma's search for her siblings: the never-ending quest that happens behind the scenes. Let Micromax pop up in THUNDERBOLTS or something, assuming he got his job in the states. And poor Ferret! Apparently, he's still hanging around the gardens of Braddock Manor. Has someone at least sent him some "convenience" food and instructions on how to use the microwave?

So, until it's discovered that Moira's coffee is the cure for the Legacy Virus (and people have to decide if the cure is worse than the disease), Make Mine Marvel!

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Well, folks, hope you don't mind that we let this letter speak for itself this issue! Since we've been bumped down to only a single letters page and we had soooooo much to say about the contest winners, we wanted to get in as much of your opinions as we could. See ya next month!

NEXT ISSUE

P IOTR AND MEGGAN CONTINUE TO GET BLOWN UP; KURT AND WISDOM TAKE A DEADLY TRIP TO GERMANY; AND WOLFSBANE AND DOUGLOCK SHARE AN AWKWARD MOMENT

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